

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-11 AF-06 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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STATE FOR EUR/SOV: USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR UR US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT: PRESS COVERAGE

1. DEPUTY FOREIGN EDITORS OF PRAVDA AND IZVESTIA BOTH TOOK PAINS TO EMPHASIZE TO EMBOFF AT SPASO RECEPTION JANUARY 28 THAT RECENT KISSINGER VISIT WILL RECEIVE POSITIVE COVERAGE IN UPCOMING PRESS COMMENTARIES.

2. PRAVDA'S VISHNEVSKIY SAID THAT BECAUSE OF UNCERTAIN SCHEDULE OF SECRETARY'S MEETINGS AND UNCERTAINTY AS TO THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETINGS, THERE HAD BEEN NO OFFICIAL "LINE" ON THE VISIT. NOW THE VERDICT IS IN AND THE SIGN IS "THUMBS UP." VISHNEVSKIY EVEN SAID THEIR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT HAD SUBMITTED A REPORT WHICH WAS NOT POSITIVE ENOUGH AND WAS THEREFORE BEING REWRITTEN.

3. STURUA (IZVESTIA) HAD THAT DAY PARTICIPATED IN A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH THREE OTHER SOVIET JOURNALISTS FOR A SAN FRANCISCO PBS (KQED) TV PROGRAM. IN DISCUSSING CURRENT NEWS EVENTS, STURUA SAID THE ASSESSMENT OF

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THE SECRETARY'S VISIT WAS VERY FAVORABLE. ANOTHER

PARTICIPANT, DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR NEKRASOV OF PRAVDA,
WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THE SOVIET UNION WELCOMED THE
RETURN VISIT OF KISSINGER IN 2-3 WEEKS. (NB. PROGRAM
SCHEDULED FOR SCREENING ON WASHINGT
U AND OTHER PBS
CHANNELS IN TWO SEGMENTS FEBRUARY 1 AND 8.)

4. COMMENT: A NUMBER OF FACTORS MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED
TO THE DELAYED ASSESSMENT OF THE SECRETARY'S VISIT,
INCLUDING THE ANTICIPATED VOTE OF THE US CON-
GRESS ON AID TO ANGOLA.
STOESSEL

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